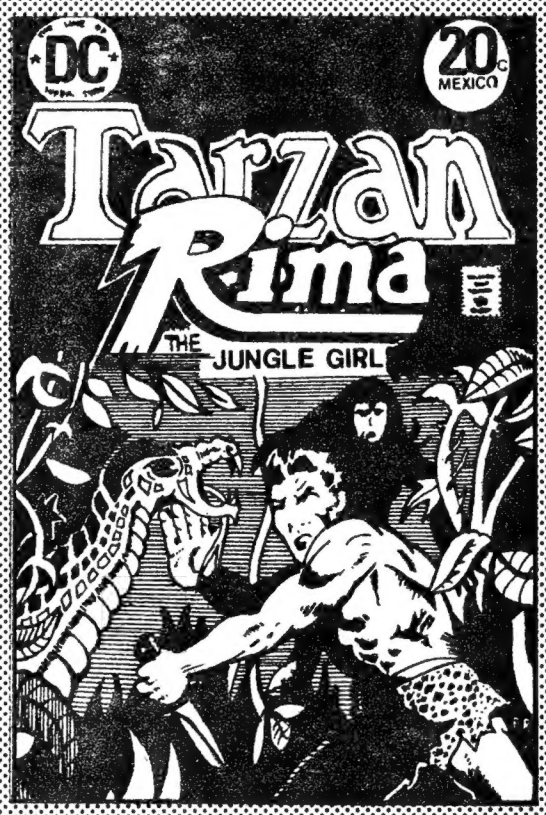
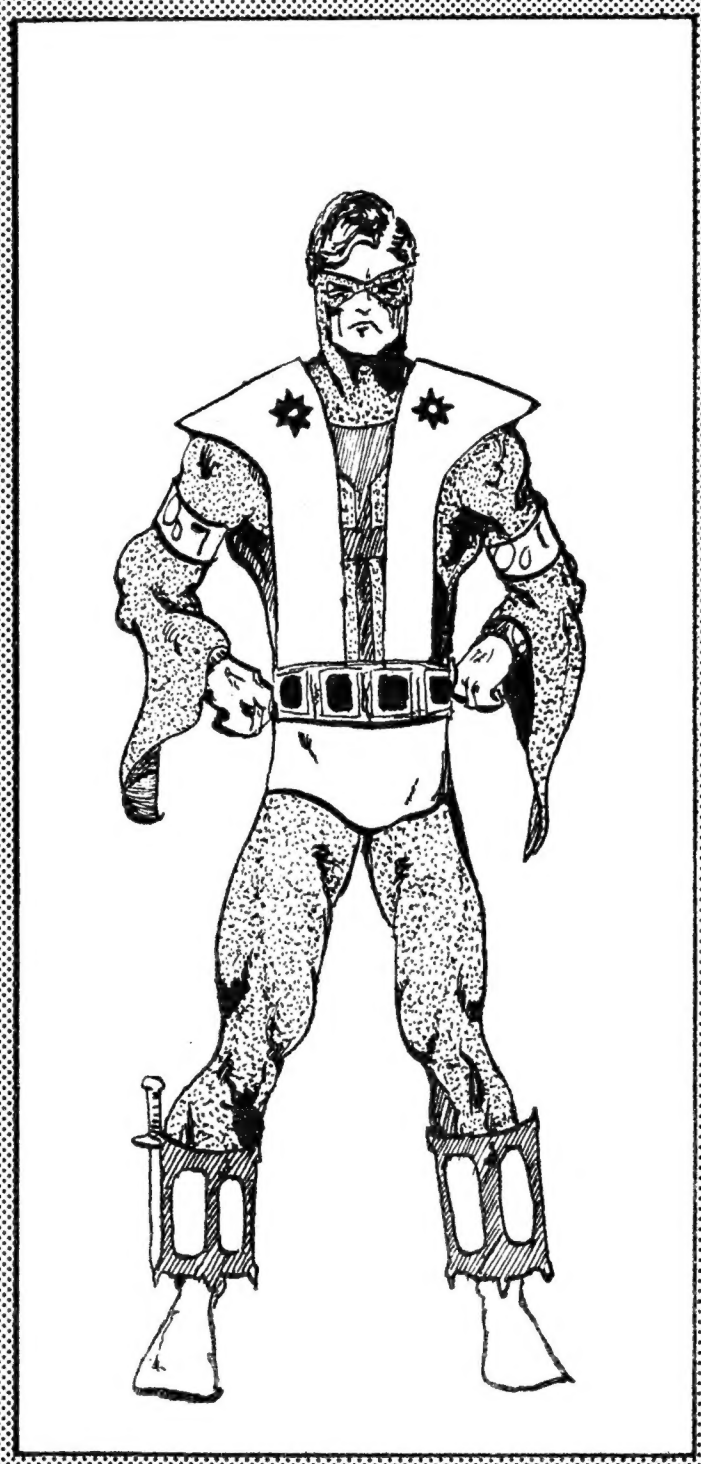
3 BEMUSING 5p

MAGAZINE

COMICON SPECIAL





BEMUSINGS

A few weeks ago, I was on my way to Dark They Were & Golden Eyed, in the passage known locally as "Smelly Alley", when I noticed a dirty, crumpled piece of paper half-hidden by a fruit-crate. It looked to me curiously familiar; I picked it up, and found to my astonishment that it purported to be the Marvel Bullpen Page for their February issues. It was, alas, incomplete; the bottom few inches had been torn away, and were nowhere to be found. I knew that the readers of this fanzine would like to see this advance scoop, so I called on, to supply the two missing cover repros, Paul Rose--only the top talents for Bemusing, that's my motto--and, for the review in the centre column, the editor of Weird Trash himself, Jack Straw. And so, with this "invisible mending", we can proudly show you the news exclusive of 1975 - on page 4.

Enough of these lies. I just hope that my little spoof amuses you; my thanks to Paul and Jack, and my apologies to the Marvel gang--it's all in fun, chaps, honestly. The rest of this issue owes a lot to a number of talented people; there's the modest mastermind of Nameless 'Zine, Nigel Edwards, for his reviews; Greg Chown and Superswipe, for the fine fan art that graces these pages; Alan Austin and Rich Morrisey, for much of the news; Rob Barrow, for advice, encouragement, reductions, and more; Alan Austin again, for taking the centre-spread ad; and Bram Stokes, for selling hundreds of copies of Bem. Thanks, fellas.

BEMUSING MAGAZINE is published by the Editor, Martin Lock.
Published bi-monthly. Copyright (c) 1974 by Martin Lock; no part of any issue of Bemusing Magazine can be reproduced without written permission. Volume 1, Number3 October 1974 issue. Price 5p per copy - by post 9p post free, subscription rate 50p for six issues - please state which issue number the subscription should begin with. Bemusing Magazine must reserve the right to adjust the subscription length, should the price of the magazine be increased. Back issues: No.1 5p post free, subsequent issues 9p post free from the editorial address. The reproductions of comic book covers are for purposes of review; we gratefully acknowledge that some of the cover repros, and some of the news, are reproduced from "Mediascene", published and edited by Steranko, and available in the U.K. from C.M.D.S. Marvel covers and characters are copyright (c) 1974 by Marvel Comics Group, a division of Cadence Industries Corporation, DC covers and characters are copyright (c)1974 by National Periodical Publications, Inc., Charlton covers and characters are copyright(c) 1974 by Charlton Publications Incorporated. Let's see, what else? Well, advertising rates are £2.00 per interior page, £4.00 centre-spread, £1.00 half page; ads should be presented in sharp black and white, photo-ready, to fit on 8" by 10½" page - please allow space for margins. Submissions must be accompanied by a stamped, self-addressed envelope; Bemusing Magazine assumes no responsibility for the return of unsolicited manuscripts or artwork, but we'll do our best. This is an amateur, non profit-making magazine.

NEWS

NEW MARVEL EDITORS NAMED

Following the resignation of Roy Thomas, four editors are to take his job--Tony Isabella, Len Wein, Marv Wolfman, and Sol Brodsky. Roy will continue to script Conan, and work as a free-lance writer.

NEW FEATURES FOR JIM STARLIN, DAVE COCKRUM

The Starlin-drawn, written, lettered, and coloured WARLOCK series is to debut in Strange Tales 178, February. There should be no deadline troubles for a while -- the first four episodes are already complete. Dave Cockrum has been chosen to draw the new X-Men series; the group will be substantially different from its old line-up.

DC GIVE THE JOKER HIS OWN BOOK; SIXTIES HEROES STRIKE BACK

Look for The Joker in his own title early next year; Denny O'Neil is already at work on a Joker/Two-Face 20-page plot. THE SANDMAN is to return shortly, from the team of Orlando, Fleischer, Chua, and Royer, while THE SPECTRE gets his own book again--AQUAMAN takes over the top spot in Adventure, in front of the Seven Soldiers of Victory serial. As reported in Summer Comics Special, Metamorpho too is to have his own book once more, edited by Boltinoff and scripted by Bob Haney.

SUPERMAN LIMITED EDITION DELAYED INDEFINITELY

The dollar reprint of Superman ≠1 has been removed from the schedules --it contained a biography of Siegel & Shuster, who are now suing DC for the rights to the early Superman stories they produced. Following Batman ≠1 (silver) will come Wonder Woman ≠1 (bronze), and then ALL STAR ≠3, the origin of the Justice Society (gold, probably).

SHADOW TO CONTINUE -- AND GET A SISTER PULP-ADVENTURE BOOK

After perhaps a short gap, life for the Shadow goes on, with one of the Phillipine artists taking over from Robbins. Denny O'Neil will have a second book to write and edit, soon -- THE AVENGER, which DC managed to outbid Seaboard Periodicals for.

SEABOARD: RUMOURS, BUT NO MAGAZINES SIGHTED YET

The only definite titles so far announced by Martin Goodman are--wait for it--"The Brute", a Hulk-type creation, and "Lawrence of Arabia". As well as THUNDER AGENTS reprints, new stories of Dynamo, Lightning, and NoMan are on the cards. Conan and Spider-Man copies are planned, plus the comic-book debuts of Phantom Detective and either Operator 5 or Secret Agent X, pulp heroes of the forties, and movie spin-offs. A rumour has Seaboard putting Perry Rhodan in comics, and even making a deal with Charlton for reprints to certain characters.

...more news on page 11

PEERLESS PIECES OF PULCHRITUDINOUS PALAVER, PALPITATINGLY PARRIED BY PERSUASIVE PEOPLE!

ITEM: Now that Rascally Roy has escaped, we've got four editors dashing about trying to pick up the pieces. There is Jolly Solly Brodsky, who couldn't edit his way out of a paper bag; Tony"The Tiger" Isabella, the biggest ego-tripper since Smilin' Stan; Marvelous Marv Wolfman; and Lugubrious Len Wein. Step up and say hello to them all, 'cause it's a cinch not all of them will be around long.

ITEM: Did you know that most of our best artists have now handed in their notice? Yup, "Judo" Jim Starlin, Riotous Rich Buckler, Fearless Frank Brunner, and Gil"Sugar Lips" Kane are all trying to find jobs that pay money, not our Marvel Value Stamps...Smiley is hoping to get rid of Dire Donny Heck and Revoltin' Ron Wilson at the same time, so some good may come of it.

ITEM: We're bursting to tell you about our two new team-up books, in the successful, senses-shattering Marvel Two In One & Team-Up style - but instead, we're showing you their pulse-pounding covers. So enjoy, pilgrim, enjoy!

STANLEY'S SOAPBOX

Let's stop and wrap, for one or two columns. Now that I'm shot of that long-haired old weirdo, Thomas, I can really have a heart-to-heart with all you paying mugs, so hang loose, face front, excelsior and onwards, zzzt, breep, up and away, 'nuff said, fooom. tell it like it is, oh, true believer, sheesh... THUMP!

Er... Sorry, people, but it looks as if Smiley has just run down--and Tony the Tiger only wound him up an hour or so ago. So, since no-one in the room wants to write any more daft mini-items, here's a totally unbiased review of one of our latest books, by our newest bullpenner:-

ASTONISHING PREMIERE OF
CREATURES ON THE SPOTLIGHT,
Featuring COUNT KUNG-FU,
Vampire Master of the
Martial Arts. #7, February
script: Moe Dounch
art: Star Jimlin
inks: Roy Miker
colours: Glynis Winegum
letters: Dennis J. O'Neil
edits: Tony the Tiger
presents: Stan the Man
reviews: Marvin Block
(alias JACK STRAW)

A good start to the series. With the current popularity of the Martial Arts & horror Marvel have decided to make this a bi-hourly comic. If sales are good, it might be increased to quarterhourly.

Briefly, the story -- Count Kung-Fu is on the trail of his long-lost brother, Doc Shadow, who he hasn't seen for three centuries (and is incidentally helping Dr Doom destroy Brooklyn this month, in Marvel Nine In One--plug) when, by accident, he meets the Were-Dragon by Noon (who is Night Nurse, after she dropped acid over her head, and with amnesia) in the old deserted castle. There is a fierce battle, and the Were-Dragon gets into the T'so'ha stance--and breaks her back.

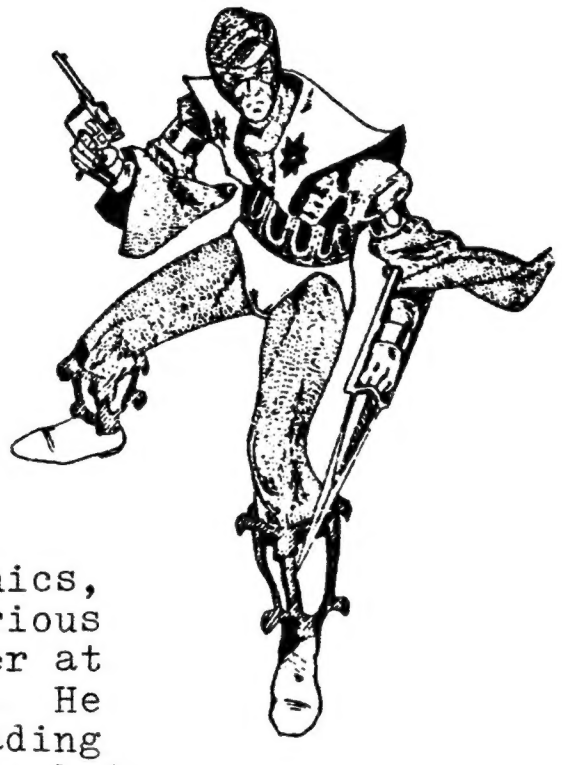
(cont'd after next 83 pages

ITEM: Did you hear that our Distinguished Competitor may be going out of business? It seems that they've been out trying to sell off rights to their comics characters, and even approached Our Leader--but Smilin' Stan just didn't want to know, after Carmine "Inky" Infantino a while ago double-crossed Smiley by not raising the price of his 20c line when Marvel did. Chee! --and there was Rascally Roy all ready to handle Merryman of the Inferior Five, while Happy Herb Trimpe was hoping to draw "Angel and the Ape", if he could colour them both green, and little Donny Heck was planning to render Swamp Thing--badly, of course.

ITEM: The IN thing this week in the bullpen is boredom -- so step up and see the paper darts produced by Puny Paul Gulacy, the cockroach race, Boring Bob Brown drinking in the corner, and yours truly making up this page without waking up. Just as well that Smiley never reads the small print, eh, Offendi?

ITEM: There's no room for me to tell you no room's left!

The MANHUNTER File



Seven episodes; 69 pages, telling of the new life of Paul Kirk, known three decades before as the Manhunter. He had been killed in Africa in 1946--only to be preserved by cryogenics, and operated on countless times by the mysterious Council, ten scientists who had banded together at the end of the war to save mankind from itself. He was to be head of their Enforcement Branch, leading a seemingly unlimited supply of his clone-twins; but, soon after being recalled to life, he realised that the Council had degenerated into a group of self-serving immortality-seekers, ruthless to all who crossed its path, and he resolved to fight it, using the advanced martial skills and "healing factor" he had been given.

That was the basic situation that Archie Goodwin, the writer and editor, and Walt Simonson, the artist, worked from, plotting Marvel-style. In the first story, Manhunter is an enigmatic figure that Interpol agent Christine St. Clair learns of second hand--or so she thinks. He thwarts an attempted assassination; in the second instalment, we learn that this is one of many clashes all over the world between Manhunter, who is identified as Paul Kirk, and his blue-clad foes--also apparently Kirk, down to their fingerprints. Chapter 3 begins to explain the situation, and reveals the machinations of the Council; chapter 4 reveals the rest, and has Manhunter and Christine fugitives from Interpol.

The fifth episode, "Cathedral Perilous", again approaches the saga from a different angle; a family of American tourists find a church in Istanbul, and goes inside, while Manhunter and Christine also investigate, and find a vast gathering of the Council's followers. A fight with the clones ensues, while Christine escapes with a tape-recording of the proceedings; thanks to the timely help of the tourists' young son -- the parents never have any idea what went on--they escape. At the end, we learn that the new top operative of the Council is Christine's father. Chapter 6 sees his death, when he fails to take back the recording from his

(continued on third page following

NO FAN CAN STAND AG

FANTASY UNLIMITED - Britain's Premier Article Fanzine, published bi-monthly by Alan Austin. Future issues will feature the Shadow, Captain Marvel, a series on DC's showcase heroes, plus the regular features "The Worlds of Emlock", "We Want Information", the letters column, a comics quiz, art by top fan artists, a large ad section, and as much else as can be fitted in; all for only 15p, or four issues for 50p, post free.

72 PAGES CRAMME
WANT TO KNOW ABO
STORY TITLES, VI
WRITERS, ARTISTS

ALL FOR ONLY 35p

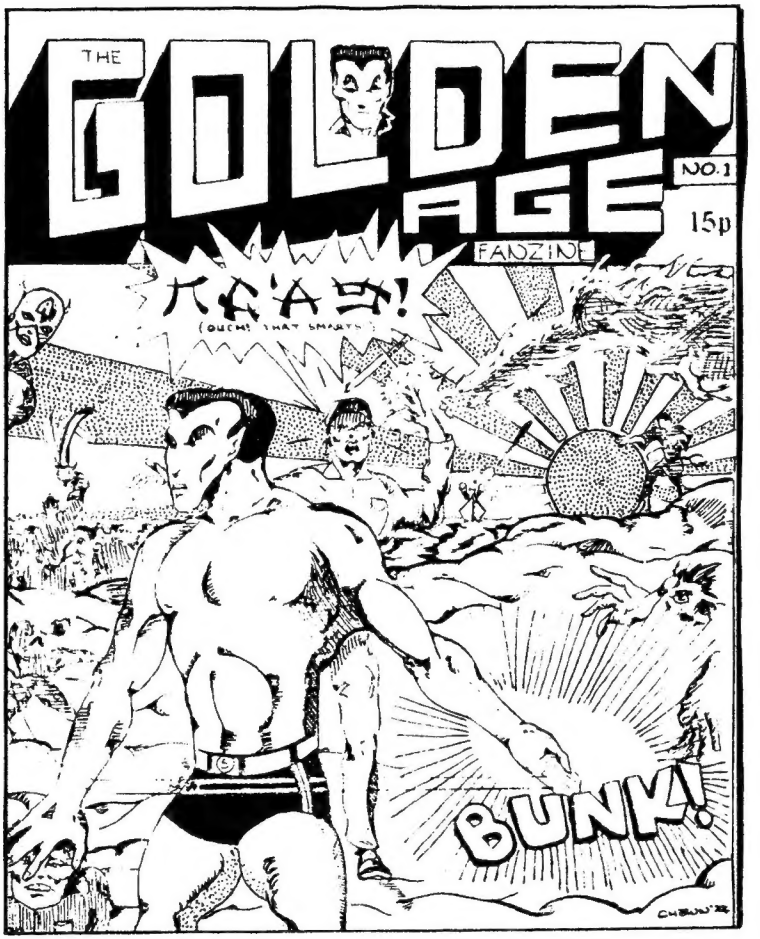
FANTASY UNLIMITE
MAIL ORDER SERVI
COMICS--PLEASE W

AINST . . .

D WITH ALL YOU'D
UT MARVEL COMICS;
LLAINS, ORIGINS,
, INKERS ETC.

, POST FREE!

D ALSO OPERATES A
CE FOR NEW MARVEL
RITE FOR DETAILS.



THE GOLDEN AGE FANZINE - A new 'zine from Alan Austin, featuring the pulps and comics of the fabulous forties - plus plenty of old and new comics for sale, regular columns, and fan art.

All these, and 30,000 comics, are available from the Crypt of Comics - Fantasy Unlimited, 180 (basement), Lower Clapton Road, Clapton, LONDON E 5. Visitors are welcome Tuesday to Saturday, 10.30 to 5.00pm.

daughter; also, Manhunter fights an epic battle with Asano Nitobe, the master of Ninjutso who taught him his martial skills. Only Christine's timely arrival with the tape proving the Council's duplicity saves our hero from defeat, but now, with a new ally won, the stage is set for a direct attack on the Council's citadel.

But Manhunter is to gain another ally for the attempt; none other than the Batman himself--which is handy, as it means that the final chapter, 'Gotterdammerung', can run for twenty pages, not just 8 or 9. The Caped Crusader gets involved when one of his friends, a judo expert and private detective, is found dead and one of the Council's assassinations takes place in Wayne Manor. A gaudy costumed villain stops Batman catching the killer, but soon he finds a lead; the scene shifts to Nairobi, where Manhunter saves the Batman's life, and tells of his plan to attack the Council--but refuses the darknight detective's aid. "You're not a killer! And this is a **KILLING** mission!"

Manhunter, Christine, Nitobe, and the weapon-master they went to Nairobi to recruit, Kolu, fly off to storm the Council's stronghold -- but as they climb out into the Australian desert, a shot rings out, and Kolu is felled. Before Manhunter can investigate, the two snipers are revealed--one in each hand of the Batman. Together, the four people descend via the ventilation shaft into the citadel; in the last few pages, Batman defeats and unmasks the costumed villain he'd been out to get... And Manhunter confronts the Council and, in agony from pure radiation wielded by his enemies, manages to gain control of the place's systems. A plane carrying his comrades soars off into the afternoon; below, Paul Kirk fights his last battle, a battle of mental power against the remaining members of the Council --and the whole citadel explodes. He has won; he is at peace again.

Of course, that's only an outline; in 69 pages, Goodwin's vision, Simonson's design created something special, a kind of adventure we never saw before. Well done, Walt; thanks, Archie.

- Martin Lock

FANZINES RECEIVED DEPARTMENT

BATMANIA No.18, July 1974, 30p in UK from fantasy unlimited; editor Richard Morrissey, Editor Emeritus Biljo White. 28 pages, 50 cents.

Now here's a strange item; inspired by Alan Austin's attempt to revive Batmania, which culminated in Fantasy Unlimited 16, a Batman Special, DC letterhack and FU contributor Rich Morrissey has gone and revived 'The Fanzine for Batman Fans' itself -- and a rather strange effort it is, too. There's a splendidly striking cover by top American fan artist Jim Jones; but Rich hides it on page 26, and uses a rather weak illo by Batmania's original editor, Biljo White, instead. It's spirit duplicated, yet, in pale purple, pale red, and pale green. Inside, six sheets are mimeographed--with the edges unreadable, and a couple of bad attempts to draw directly on the stencils as well. Seven sheets are properly printed, and these do contain some nice fan art by Jim Jones and others; three of the sheets are reprints, however. We're left with two articles about Archie Goodwin's Batman and Manhunter, a plea to buy comics without covers, a Batmania ballot, and bat-facts. Bearing in mind that this is Rich's first issue, it will do--but it must improve to survive.

- ML

Reviews

It has been a time of changes at DC, with new editors taking over the books Archie Goodwin left, and a slight re-shuffle as well. GI COMBAT ≠174 has Murray Boltinoff, so the lettercol and the back-up stories go into a swift decline, and the "Haunted Tank" yarn goes off in a new direction--scripter Bob Kanigher seems to be confusing their ghost's powers with the Spectre's. OUR FIGHTING FORCES No.151 has Jack Kirby taking control of the Losers, and giving them twenty pages to play with--something almost unheard of at DC. The story's pure Kirby, a New Gods skirmish transplanted to World War Two, with on average 4 panels per page. DETECTIVE 444 (Jan) has the return to the title of Julius Schwartz; it's a step down in many ways from an Archie Goodwin issue, with boring features like Roy Raymond, Sierra Smith, Star Hawkins, & Gang Busters ousting the super-hero reprints --a new Elongated Man story has Ernie Chua art; the new Batman tale is by Wein and Aparo, the first part of the "Bat-Murderer" series. Luckily, Schwartz has kept the type of cover image that Goodwin had created for Detective, although he doesn't do it quite as well, as he puts too many blurb-words on--but then, it certainly isn't easy to teach an old dog new tricks. And WEIRD MYSTERY 15 (Jan) has Tex Blaisdell taking over as editor from Joe Orlando, and doing a good job--you can't see the join.

I like Superman; his stories (Boltinoff's World's Finest excepted) are always entertaining, and Clark and his friends are interesting people. In SUPERMAN 282, lovable Lex Luthor has a Plan--zap Supes with a youth ray, to make him young and inexperienced enough to be out-smarted, while Steve Lombard has ten pages to regret one of his practical jokes; he knows that whenever he tries to make a fool of Mr Kent, something horrible always happens to him soon after. Both these plots are worked out nicely by Elliot Maggin, while the team of Swan & Schaffenberger, Curt & Kurt, is settling down well. The back-up feature is a loser, though; another tedious tale from "The Fabulous World of Krypton", with Ernie Chua art that looks as if it was expanded 50% to fit the pages, not reduced, in parts. And over in ACTION ≠442, in front of a Grell/Pasko Atom "Time Pool" yarn of America's Martian Invasion Scare of 1938, we have Steve, Inspector Henderson of the old TV show, Professor Pepperwinkle, and the Man of Steel himself, all expertly mixed together by Cary Bates, who sets Superman a 'Flashy' task to save a life--one time he really is called upon to be much, much "faster than a speeding bullet". The humour and humanity that both Maggin and Bates are giving Superman make for some entertaining stories--more power to them.

Marvel do give us fair warning on the cover of the latest addition to their 25-cent line. "This Comic-Mag Will Make You Go--ARRGH!" is the caution on ARRGH! ≠1, which one fanzine editor described to me

as "Marvel's answer to Plop!" We are treated to 19 pages of art; the 8-page "Fangs for the Memory" is written by one Jack Younger, pencilled by Sekowsky and inked by Sutton, and tells how Count Fangula finds life in New York after Transylvania, and is quite amusing; we also get a Bill Everett 6- pager from the fifties, and "Rat" by Sutton & Flynn, a 7-pager lifted without credit from Monster Times; if we get more new material in future, this could be a good title--but this type of comic never does seem to last long. But let's pause for a couple of reviews in more depth, by Bem's guest reviewer:-

HULK 182, December 1974
"Between Hammer and Anvil" by Len Wein & Herb Trimpe - 17 pages

Uhh, Hulk learn to write. Black man teach Hulk. Hulk take man to see son in big cage with walls. Son is bad man, tied to another bad man with strong chain. Men strong; but Hulk stronger. Hulk SMASH badmen. Man who learn Hulk to write get killed. Hulk bury man, and write his name on stone on top of grave. Hulk sad. Why all Hulk's friends get killed in Hulk's comic? Hulk try to understand, but hard for Hulk to think--maybe dumb readers have better luck. --Hulk

An interesting letters page this issue, dealing with nudity in the comics. A good question; and, even though it wouldn't get past the Code, it's still a thought-provoking idea. --Nigel Edwards

GIANT-SIZE DRACULA 3, December 1974 - 30 pages
"Slow Death on the Killing Ground" by Claremont, Heck, & Springer

This is the first giant-size Dracula I have read; and it's very good --the art is by Heck, which may be enough to put others off, but I quite like him. Springer inks, but it makes little impression, while Chris Claremont's script is well written, better I think than Marv Wolfman. Claremont shows Dracula as he should be, vile & merciless; Wolfman too often portrays him as a nice guy.

The story itself contains the sought revenge of a blind girl upon Dracula, and her futile battle against the Count; she doesn't have a chance, but she tries hard, and I was hoping she would succeed, even though I knew Drac had to win--it is his mag, after all. The rest of the mag is filled up with lousy fifties reprints, including one that has recently been on view (in Dracula Lives 5), but I suppose they are better than the sixties monster reprints most of us have read at least once before. Worth a read. --Nigel Edwards

While Nigel gets his breath back, and puts some iodine on those two punctures on his neck, ol' Emlock will demolish a Marvel book or so. And what better title for the purpose than GIANT-SIZE MASTER OF KUNG

FU ≠2? I thought the word was that this mag would contain all new material--but no, hiding behind the 40-page "The Devil-Doctor's Triumph" are 2 6-page "Yellow Claw" fifties reprints by Joe Maneely. Oh well, the new story's Paul Gulacy art isn't bad, except for the splash page; Al Milgrom did a nice nonsensical cover, and the Doug Moench script is okay. Step right up, WAR IS HELL 10 (Dec); you're next. Stop shaking, you silly comic. You've got fairly good Dick Ayers/Frank Springer art--a bit ordinary in places, but with some nice effects--and 18 pages of story, more than most Marvels manage, but the basic premise! The DC 'Weird War' might have used it for a 7-page tale, but Tony Isabella, aided by Chris Claremont, has made it a series! In the origin issue, last time, John Kowalski got killed when the Nazis invaded Poland--but Death is going to keep him in World War Two, putting him in any handy body, and, in the familiar hooded purple robes and skull-face, standing in the background and gloating. The adventures of Kowalski, involuntary 'Deadman', are to show how nasty war is for everyone...I am going to wait a while before passing final judgement, but - the book is rather dispiriting--and who wants to lash out 25 cents to be depressed? But let's see what Nigel has found to comment on now:-

SPIDER-MAN 139, December 1974
"Day of the Grizzly" by Conway, Andru, Giacoia & Hunt - 18 pages

A reasonable issue, really a lead-in to next month, this spotlights the Grizzly (who he, den?), and his mysterious confrontation with the 'surprise supervillain'(who dat?), who I thought would be the Kingpin. But wasn't, it was... No, I won't tell you, buy the mag already. Nice art from Andru, another artist that I like; sure, I'd like Neal Adams to write, draw, ink, & edit everything too, but no way--Andru does a fair job. Conway is becoming a good Spidey scripter, capturing a lot of Lee's little touches (JJJ cowering behind a desk, as the Grizzly comes smashing in). All in all, mainly an action issue, with a promise of good things to come in issue 140. I hope I get to see it.

- NPE (who him?)

(continued overleaf

LATE NEWS -- THE WRAP-UP

DC--NEW SHOWCASE BOOK COMING
A new title, 'First Edition' is due from DC shortly in the 100-page format. The 1st issue will feature Kirby's latest creation 'ATLAS', followed by 'The Green Team' by Joe Simon, and in no.3 'The Dingbats' from Kirby.

MARVEL--MORE BRITISH WEEKLIES
Later this month'Dracula Lives' & 'Planet of the Apes' are due out as British weeklies, with reprints from the US b&w mags; 8p is the price, and Apes≠1 has a free colour poster inside.

CMDS--NO MORE DC MAGS TO COME?
Following an unexpectedly high rate of returns, Nick Landau is stopping his air-freight dcs. He will, however, continue with the Marvels every month.

ART CREDITS:- Greg Chown's work is on pages 1,2,10,11,&12; Paul Rose's spoof cover repros are on pages 1&4; Superswipe's art is on pages 1,3,5,8,9,& 12.

PLANET OF THE APES 2, October 1974
"The Forbidden Zone of Forgotten Horrors" by Doug Moench & Mike Ploog - 25 pages
"World of Captive Humans" by Doug Moench, George Tuska, & Mike Esposito - 20 pages

I admit it. I have never seen one of the many Ape films -- I guess the idea of a movie about a bunch of tree-swingers doesn't really turn me on. But I like the comic, even though it has its faults -- the quality is very uneven. The new story of the Apes, a sort of sequel to the films, is by Moench & Ploog, and is little short of excellent. Moench writes well, introducing ideas and effects that are well handled (some, perhaps, from Kirby's Kamandi), while the story moves along nicely, and promises to be a damn fine serial. The art is Ploog-inked, and is the best of his work I have yet seen; the black and white medium is used to full effect here, with shifting greys and subtle, murky blacks--the fog-enshrouded forbidden valley really does look enshrouded in fog. I really enjoyed this story; the plot is fairly simple, with Brutus, the baddie, framing the young human hero, who flees with his chimp friend into a valley, where they meet alien-looking slavers bent on something nasty--nice stuff. I won't comment on the articles; they are strictly for the ape freak. The second strip is an adaptation of the first ape film; to be polite, it is not very good. Moench must be hampered by the format, because his script is poor; George Tuska and Mike Esposito draw it as if it was for the colour comics, with feeble greys--and Tuska can't draw a decent-looking ape. Most of 'em look like Roddy McDowell, without his make-up! This strip needs an artist who can take advantage of the b&w medium-- Tuska and Esposito should stick to Iron Man. So speaks this lawgiver! -NPE

And that, unless you read fanzines backwards, just about wraps this issue up; Nigel also filed a review on Avengers ≠130, commenting on the cover's uncanny resemblance to Justice League ≠108's; it is a fairly good issue, apparently--the art is not too hot, even with Joe Staton on the finished pencils, but it's another well-written Steve Englehart saga, with the burial scene handled well.

You may have noticed that this issue of Bemusing is four pages slimmer than Bem ≠2; I'm afraid that we must blame inflation, and increasing print costs, for that. By cutting down on the ads, we only lose 2 pages of text-- it saves you from hearing about my visit to Hampstead's Classic Cinema to see the all-night (well, eleven to three) showing of the Republic serial "The Adventures of Captain Marvel" starring Tom Tyler. I hope that Bem no.4 will be out in December; but only the gent on my right knows for sure!